

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4606  
ANSWERED ON:21.02.2014  
SUPPLY OF GENERIC DRUGS IN CGHS  
Pradhan Shri Amarnath;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of chemists' licences issued during each of the last three years and the current year and work plan drawn to check unauthorised chemists;
- (b) whether the local chemists appointed by Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) wellness centres supply generic drugs and charge at MRP of branded medicines;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof and the steps proposed by the Government to curb such illegal activities; and
- (d) the efforts to be made by the Government to protect benevolent patients from the clutches of chemists who supply generic medicines in place of branded prescribed drugs and pockets huge profits by charging the cost of branded medicines?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD)

- (a): Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 provisions related to manufacture and sale of drugs are administered by the State Drugs Control Authorities appointed by the State Governments. The information in respect of licenses issued by the State Licensing Authorities in each year is not maintained centrally.
- (b) to(d): Local chemist authorized by Central Government Health Scheme supply the same drugs which are indented by the Wellness Centres. A certain discount is also given by them on the MRP in consonance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed by them. Penalties can be imposed on the Authorised Local Chemist for substituting the indented medicines.